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NSC Declassification/Release Instructions on File

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30 June 1969

NSC Declassification/Release Instructions on File

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Tom Charles Huston
Staff Assistant to the President

SUBJECT : Foreign Communist Support of United States
Revolutionary Protest Movements

REFERENCE : Memorandum from Mr. Tom Charles Huston,
Staff Assistant to the President, dated
June 20, 1969 (copy attached)

1. Attached is a paper on the above subject based upon information acquired by this Agency. Also attached is a folder containing samples of pertinent Agency reports which have previously been disseminated to the White House and to the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

2. The information collected by this Agency provides evidence of only a very limited amount of foreign Communist assistance to revolutionary protest movements in the United States. There is very little reporting on Communist assistance in the form of funding or training and no evidence of Communist direction or control of any United States revolutionary protest movement. The bulk of our information illustrates Communist encouragement of these movements through propaganda methods.

3. Since the summer of 1967, this Agency has been attempting to determine through its sources abroad whether or not there is any significant Communist direction or assistance to revolutionary groups in the United States. We have been collaborating closely in this effort with the Federal Bureau of Investigation and disseminating information to it. Existing Agency collection resources are being employed wherever feasible and new sources are being sought through independent means as well as with the assistance of foreign intelligence services and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Of course, the Katzenbach guidelines have inhibited our access to certain persons who might have information on efforts by Communist intelligence services to exploit revolutionary groups in the United States.

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4. I feel certain that when Mr. Helms returns from his current trip abroad, he will be happy to discuss the allocation of Agency resources to collecting information concerning the extent and nature of foreign Communist support of revolutionary protest movements in this country.

5. Please advise me if this Agency can be of any further assistance in this highly important and sensitive matter.

Sincerely,

R. E. Cushman, Jr.

R. E. Cushman, Jr.
Lieutenant General, USMC
Acting Director

Attachments: a/s

cc: The Honorable Henry A. Kissinger — *w/ey basic MB*
Assistant to the President for National
Security Affairs (without attachments)

Signature Recommended:

[Redacted Signature Box]

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R. W. Deputy Director for Plans

DDP/CI/SO: [Redacted] sh(30 June 1969)

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MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 20, 1969

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

FROM: Tom Charles Huston
Staff Assistant to the President

The President has directed that a report on foreign Communist support of revolutionary protest movements in this country be prepared for his study. He has specifically requested that the report draw upon all the resources available to the intelligence community and that it be as detailed as possible.

"Support" should be liberally construed to include all activities by foreign Communists designed to encourage or assist revolutionary protest movements in the United States.

On the basis of earlier reports submitted to the President on a more limited aspect of this problem, it appears that our present intelligence collection capabilities in this area may be inadequate. The President would like to know what resources we presently have targeted toward monitoring foreign Communist support of revolutionary youth activities in this country, how effective they are, what gaps in our intelligence exist because of either inadequate resources or a low priority of attention, and what steps could be taken, if he directed, to provide the maximum possible coverage of these activities.

I have asked the Federal Bureau of Investigation to submit their response to the President's request to me by Monday, June 30th. I would appreciate it if the Agency would provide their contribution by that date.

Although I realize that the Agency submits all information it has available in this area to the Bureau, I would like to see a broad sample of the raw data which the Agency produces. And I am particularly interested in the Agency's response to the second part of the President's request; e.g., your present ability to collect information of this type.

The President has assigned a high priority to this project, and I know that you will render the utmost assistance in its preparation.


Tom Charles Huston

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